

Message Text

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13-12

ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SCA-01 L-03 H-02 DHA-02 /018 W

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R 220309Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1064

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PORT AU PRINCE 2917

EO 11652 N/A

TAGS: CASC, PFOR, HA

SUBJECT: CONSULAR ACCESS TO U.S. CITIZENS UNDER DETENTION: SANON
AND OTHER CASES

REFS: A) PORT AU PRINCE 2879

B) ISHAM/BLANCHET LTR OF GXEQXUT

C) STATE 210590 AND PREVIOUS

1. DURING NOV 20 CONVERSATION WITH FOREIGN MINISTER BRUTUS, I NOTED THAT ALTHOUGH RECENT GOH REPLY ON CASE OF GEORGE SANON (A NATURALIZED U.S. CITIZEN OF HAITIAN ORIGIN DETAINED, INTERROGATED, AND DEPORTED BY HAITIAN AUTHORITIES LAST JULY WITHOUT EXPLANATION) HAD EXPLAINED THE SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE DEPORTATION PROCEEDINGS, NOTE HAD NOT ADDRESSED QUESTION OF ASSURANCES OF CONSULAR ACCESS IN FUTURE CASES OF THIS SORT.

2. BRUTUS REPLIED THAT PRECISE INSTRUCTIONS HAD BEEN GIVEN TO POLICE THAT THEY SHOULD IN ALL SUCH CASES PERMIT ANY U.S. CITIZEN HELD FOR QUESTIONING TO MAKE CONTACT WITH THE CONSULATE PROMPTLY. BRUTUS SAID THAT HAITI HAD SIGNED CONVENTIONS ON CONSULAR ACCESS; HE, FOR ONE, BELIEVED GOVT SHOULD ADHERE TO THEM, AND HE HAD MADE THIS VERY CLEAR TO INTERIOR MINISTER BLANCHET.

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH BRUTUS SEEMED TO ASSUME THAT BILATERAL CONSULAR CONVENTION EXISTS WITH THE U.S. AS IT DOES
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WITH FRANCE, THIS IS NOT THE CASE. NEVERTHELESS, WE UNDERSTAND

HAITIAN RESPONSIBILITIES ON CONSULAR ACCESS ARE DEFINED IN VIENNA
CONSULAR CONVENTION TO WHICH GOH IS SIGNATORY, AND BRUTUS HAS
EVIDENTLY DONE USEFUL EDUCATIONAL WORK WITHIN THE CREAKY,
SECURITY-CONSCIOUS GOH ADMINISTRATION TO ENSURE THAT HAITI'S
RECORD ON CONSULAR ACCESS WILL BE IMPROVED. SINCE IT IS
DOUBTFUL BRUTUS CAN BE INDUCED TO PUT THESE ASSURANCES INTO
WRITING, I INTEND TO SEND A NOTE EXPRESSING SATISFACTION OVER THIS
ORAL ASSURANCE AND APPRECIATION OF HIS EFFORTS.
ISHAM

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchant0
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